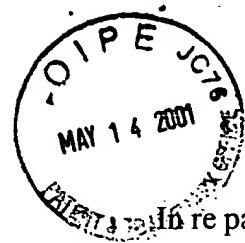


#57A

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE



In re patent application of

David HOUZE et al.

Atty. Ref: NOPH/100/JGK

Serial No.: 09/768,831

Group Art Unit: 1615

Filed: January 24, 2001

Examiner: Unassigned

For: COMPOSITIONS AND METHODS FOR DRUG DELIVERY

**PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT**

Assistant Commissioner for Patents  
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

Please amend the preamble paragraph on page one of the specification to claim priority to the prior application, S.N. 09/479,966, under 35 U.S.C. Section 120 for this Continued Prosecution Application. A marked up version of the prior pending paragraph on page one of the specification with all changes shown is enclosed together with a revised, clean page one.

The Commissioner is hereby authorized to immediately charge any fee which may be required for this Preliminary Amendment to Deposit Account No. 500511.

Respectfully submitted,

Date: May 14, 2001

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